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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of State

SUBJECT:

Disposition of U.S. Copies of Captured

German Records

- 1. I desire to draw attention to a series of considerations concerning the release to the U.S. public domain of microfilm copies of portions of captured German Foreign Office documents presently held by the Department of State. Under existing tripartite agreements among the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Federal Republic of Germany, the originals of these materials are being returned to the Boun Government, and the latter has engaged to grant German and foreign scholars access to the files at all times.
- 2. It is my understanding that the microfilm copies which were made for U.S. use and custody will be transferred to the National Archives where they will be freely available for public examination. A partion of early German Fereign Office materials, primarily dealing with the Weimar period, has already been transferred to the U.S. Archives. Some 500 other microfilm containers are now pending transfer.
- 3. In pursuit of its national counterintelligence responsibility. this Agency began a systematic examination of these records in January 1957. As of 30 May 1957, some 300 containers had been reviewed. Included were 50 containers selected from the lot of 500 containers pending transfer. This examination was made possible and facilitated by the courtesy and cooperation of the Historical Office of the State Department.

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4. The review has produced a large quantity of information of a sensitive counterintelligence nature derived largely from German intelligence and counterintelligence reports, dispatches and telegrams dealing with American, British, Russian, German and other intelligence Services, their personnel and their operations.

## 5. For example:

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with Seviet espienage activity		25X1
Personality information contained the		
current operational interest, and a re	eview has been	
initiated by this Agency.		
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also contain details of current counte operational interest.	rintelligence	
	deals	25X1
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tion on these personalities is relevant		
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identities of German Military Intelligi stationed throughout the world. In a		
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contains the names of Allied intelliger	nce personnel in	_=;(:

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	25X1
identifies a	25X1
member of the diplomatic mission in	
in 1944 as an alleged paymaster of a local	25X1
compounded group. A file check indicates the pre-	05)/4
sured identity of the person named in the Garman	25X1
intelligence report with an individual who in 1956 was	
still a member of thediplomatic service abroad.	25X1
	25X1
is a detailed report concerning Soviet espionage networks operating in 1942.	25X1
	25X1
concern in detail a German	25X1
intelligence penetration of the U. S. diplomatic installa-	25/(1
from 1939 to 1942. Unevaluated information	25X1
of a personal and scandalous nature is alleged regarding	
a former American minister The German	25X1
speration had a broad scope apparently extending from	
As far as is	25X1
known, no U. S. counterintelligence investigative effort	20/(1
has ever been made on the basis of this documentation.	

6. These examples are selected at random from the containers which have been screened by this Agency. The counterintelligence content speaks for itself. It seems to me that MCID-12 clearly applies to certain of these materials and bare their release to the public under current U.S. policy. However, it is my considered view that the national counterintelligence interest requires that all of the German Foreign Office material now pending transfer to the National Archives should be carefully screened, and that documents of a counterintelligence interest to the United States or its allies be removed before the microfilm copies are deposited.

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